

**JOINT MEETING OF  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN & FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2008**

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**I. Call to Order/Roll Call**

Selectmen Chairman Brian Major opened the Joint Meeting of the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committees at 7:02 PM on February 6, 2008 in the Selectmen's Conference Room at the Town Offices. Present from the Board of Selectmen were Alex Vispoli, Ted Teichert, and Gerald Stabile. Present from the Finance Committee: Chair Joanne F. Marden and members Harold J. Wright, Cynthia Milne, Timothy L. Felter, Richard T. Howe, S. Jon Stumpf, Mary O'Donoghue, and Mark Merritt. Also present: Town Manager Reginald S. Stapczynski, Assistant Town Manager Steven S. Bucuzzo, and Finance Director Anthony J. Torrisi. The meeting was duly posted and cablecast live.

**II. Opening Ceremonies**

Chairman Major led the members in a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. FY-2009 Town Manager's Recommended Budget Presentations**

▪ **Police Department**

Chief Pattullo presented the Police Department's Budget for FY'2009 starting with their Mission Statement to provide the highest level of public safety and service to the citizens and business people in the community. Chief Pattullo explained their organization chart, reviewed the primary functions and services of the department, and showed the following information for the FY 09 Operating Budget and the Town Manager's Recommended FY09 Budget.

	FY09 Op Budget	TM's Recommended Budget
Personal Services	\$ 6,140,476	\$ 6,107,145
Expenses	\$ 918,347	\$ 911,935
Revenue	\$ -210,028	\$ -334,143
Total	\$ 812,795	\$ 6,684,973

Some of the issues and challenges facing the Police Department include the need for additional police officers, emergency management planning, maintaining existing services and staffing with the special services division, meeting homeland security mandates, as well as handling the impact on traffic during the downtown Main Street Project, and the increase in calls for service within the cluster housing developments.

A level service budget would necessitate the need to reduce the Animal Control Officer to half-time, elimination of one clerk, the Horizons for Youth Program, and elimination of a part-time parking person.

**III. FY-2009 Town Manager's Recommended Budget Presentations (cont'd)**

▪ **Fire Rescue Department**

Chief Mansfield began his presentation with a recap of the positive developments that occurred over the past year in the Fire-Rescue Department, especially the increase in

communication and morale. His vision for the future is to make the entire organization better, to continue to improve communications, increase levels of training, and provide a pro-active approach to issues especially those mandated on a state-wide level. The Chief reviewed the Fire-Rescue Organization Chart noting they have not increased personnel staff in five years and reviewed their Mission Statement and Value Statement. The Chief discussed the primary functions and services provided to the community and reviewed the summary of personnel for FY08 and FY09 which is the same for both years; 72 full-time employees with a department request for 78. Currently, the Department has two vacancies and anticipates 5-7 retirements. The FY09 Operating Budget and Town Manager's Recommended Budget shows the following:

	FY09 Op Budget	TM's Recommended Budget
Personnel Summary	\$6,045,331	\$6,005,457
Expenses	307,383	341,300
Sale of Service	-850,000	-860,000
Total	\$ 5,502,714	\$5,486,757

Chief Mansfield said the Fire-Rescue Department is requesting three vehicle replacements (a pumper truck, ambulance, and reserve car) as indicated in the CIP. The impact of a level-funded budget on the Fire-Rescue Department would bring several difficult service cuts to the table; closing a sub-station, sporadic brown out fire services, removing an ambulance from service and layoffs.

The Chief also remarked that without the appropriate funding to repair or replace the two substations, services will decrease. The Department continues to do more with less; however, at this point safety will become compromised.

The Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen thanked Chief Pattullo and Chief Mansfield for their presentations.

#### **IV. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Selectman Stabile and seconded by Selectman Teichert to adjourn the Joint Meeting. The vote was 4-0 to approve. John Stumpf, Finance Committee motioned to adjourn the Joint Meeting, seconded by Mark Merritt. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dee DeLorenzo, Recording Secretary